

Rockville Home Energy Opportunities

Whether you are shopping for an electricity supplier, seeking assistance with overdue utility bills, contracting a professional home energy assessment, weatherizing your home, installing energy efficiency upgrades, or interested in renewable energy, there are a variety of programs available to serve your home energy needs.

Comparison Shopping for Electricity Suppliers

www.opc.state.md.us/opc/RegulatoryActivities/Publications.aspx#Electricity

Maryland residents are able to choose who supplies their electricity. Your local utility will still deliver the electricity to your home, but you can choose another company to generate the electricity. This means that you can shop competitive suppliers and compare rates, services, or clean and renewable energy sources. The Maryland Office of People's Counsel compiles **monthly electric supplier prices by utility service area** to help consumers compare prices and make informed decisions on their electricity supply options.

Utility Bill Assistance

- **Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP)** – provides assistance with heating bills
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhstmpl.asp?url=/content/hhs/civs/rap/faq.asp
- **Electric Universal Service Program (EUSP)** – provides assistance with electric bills
<http://dhr.maryland.gov/ohep/>

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

www.mdhousing.org/Website/Programs/wap/Default.aspx

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), operated by the Department of Housing and Community Development, helps eligible low income households with the installation of energy conservation materials in their dwelling units. Owner applicants must be income eligible (currently 60% of statewide median) and able to prove ownership of the housing unit. These measures both reduce the consumption of energy and the cost of maintenance for these homes. Once eligibility is determined, the local agency will schedule an energy audit inspection. If the existing condition of the dwelling permits, the program may provide the following treatments to make the unit more energy efficient:

- blower door air infiltration reduction
- insulation in the attic, floors, walls
- hot water system improvements
- lighting retrofit
- furnace clean/tune, safety repairs, burner retrofit or replacement
- health and safety items

Empower Maryland Low Income Energy Efficiency Programs (LIEEP)

www.mdhousing.org/website/Programs/lieep/Default.aspx

The EmPOWER Low Income Energy Efficiency Program (LIEEP), administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) helps low income households with installation of energy conservation materials in their homes at no charge. Households may participate in the program if their annual household income is equal to or less than the equivalent of 200% of the federal poverty level. The program may provide the following improvements to make your home safer, healthier and more energy efficient:

- insulation in the attic, floors and walls
- hot water system improvements
- lighting retrofits
- furnace cleaning, tuning and safety repairs
- refrigerator retrofit
- health and safety items

Be SMART Home (loans)

www.mdhousing.org/website/programs/BeSmart/Home.aspx

The Department of Housing and Community Development offers innovative financing to improve home energy efficiency through replacement and upgrading of appliances, heating, cooling and ventilation systems and whole house envelope improvements across the state. These changes will save the homeowner money, increase the safety and comfort of the home, and add value to the home.

- **Be SMART Home ENERGY STAR Loans (*Up to \$15,000 at 6.99% for 3, 5, or 10 year term*)** Unsecured loans for energy efficient replacement of appliances and equipment including but not limited to: refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers and clothes washers; heat pumps, furnaces, boilers and air conditioners; insulation in attics, ceilings, walls and floors; windows and doors, ventilation fans and programmable thermostats.
- **Be SMART Home Complete Loans (*Up to \$15,000 at 4.99% for 3, 5, or 10 year term*)** Unsecured loans for whole house, energy efficiency improvements and weatherization based on a certified energy audit. Audit recommendations to maximize energy efficiency throughout the home could include: air infiltration reduction measures, such as air tight windows and doors; increased insulation; hot water system improvements; heating systems maintenance or replacement; and appliance replacement.

Maryland Home Energy Loan

www.mcecloans.com/Default.aspx?ID=95eb26db-f329-4a25-a0f3-799e02703239

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) and the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) offer an innovative energy efficiency financing initiative for Maryland property owners. There are two interest rates available for eligible consumers. A rate of 6.99% APR is available for consumers completing an energy audit and installing insulation and duct sealing measures. A rate of 9.99% APR is available for consumers completing equipment upgrades only, such as a furnace or HVAC unit that meet MCEC and ENERGY STAR standards.

Professional Home Energy Assessments and Improvements

- **Pepco Quick Home Energy Check-Up:** An energy professional will visit your home and assess the condition of the following items: insulation levels, air leakage, heating and cooling systems, windows and doors, lighting and appliances, and water heating equipment. After completing the assessment, your energy professional will provide you with a summary report explaining the findings; identify ways you can reduce energy use and costs; and with your permission, install energy-saving products such as CFLs, water heater tank wrap, water heater pipe wrap(s), low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators and power strips. <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/quick-home-energy-check-up-program>
- **Pepco Home Performance with ENERGY STAR:** This whole house approach maximizes home energy performance through a discounted home energy assessment and rebates up to \$2,000 for energy-saving upgrades. <http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/home-performance-with-energy-star-program>

Pepco Residential Energy Saving Programs (rebates and discounts)

www.pepco.com/energy/conservation/meiin/

- **Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)** - rebates on tune-ups, duct sealing, and high-efficiency upgrades.
- **Lighting**- discounts on ENERGY STAR qualified lighting at participating retailers.
- **Appliances**- discounts on ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washers, dehumidifiers, electric water heaters, freezers, refrigerators, and room air conditions.
- **Consumer electronics**- discounts on energy-saving smart strips/plug load controls at participating retailers.

Renewable Energy Incentives

<http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/homeowner.cfm?state=MD&re=1&ee=1>

The Database of State Incentives for Renewable and Efficiency (DSIRE) maintains an updated summary of grants, tax credits, rebates, loans, etc. that are available for residential renewable energy systems, such as solar water heating, solar photovoltaic systems, and geothermal.